

REMARKS

I. Introduction

With the cancellation herein, without prejudice, of claims 33, 36, 39, 40, 45 to 47, 53 and 54, claims 41 to 44 and 48 to 52 are pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Drawings

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the formal drawings of Figures 1 and 2 have been approved and entered.

III. Rejection of Claims 33, 36, 39, 40 and 53 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 33, 36, 39, 40 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. While Applicants respectfully disagree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, claims 33, 36, 39, 40 and 53 have been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the present rejection. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection of Claims 33, 36, 39, 40 and 53 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 33, 36, 39, 40 and 53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. While Applicants respectfully disagree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, claims 33, 36, 39, 40 and 53 have been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the present rejection. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

V. Rejection of Claims 33, 36, 39, 40, 45 to 47, 53 and 54 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 33, 36, 39, 40, 45 to 47, 53 and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,888,976. While Applicants respectfully disagree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters,

claims 33, 36, 39, 40, 45 to 47, 53 and 54 have been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the present rejection. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

VI. Allowable Claims 41 to 44 and 48 to 52

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that claims 41 to 44 and 48 to 52 are allowable.

VII. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required in connection with this paper to the deposit account of Kenyon & Kenyon, Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

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